8/10/71- HR Thanks for your copy of "The Press and the Bay of Pigs", which I look forward to reading and know will be valuable and to your mailing of the 8th, with your 8/6 to SM and me, which I have read, and your 8/6 to Belin, which I will in time. I am not happy about any correspondence in which you can or will agree to such restrictions as you indicate, in part because they are an unreasonable imposition by Belin which makes me wonder on that count and in part because you may well be right in thinking he has crossed the line, which case you may become vulnerable. I have refused to correspond with those who were supplying useful information for less. Particularly because I think all of this is of significane to the past only do I have apprehensions about running any risk without at least commensurate gain. Furthermore, especially if he interposed these restrictions, whatever they are, unilaterally, without your prior agreement, I think they are quite wrong. You are sufficiently lacking in experience and in some areas of the evidence for you to seek advice. I would not welcome this because I can't keep up now and those things no longer interest me, but should you decide this way, I will. Which reminds me, if you would like to come down again before school, a good week would be that of the 23rd, when Lil will be working. By then I have to have completed the draft of the rest of PM. I'm having to do it in haste and could use suggestions and criticisms. Say if you'd like to discuss anything about Belin, and I'm not trying to influence the decision, which has to be yours, that would be a good time....There has to be something wrong when, as I now notice, you can't even disclose his conditions...Although he is not one of the more important, some of the minor things he handled are among the more important, and if he has any doubts about his own record, which he sure as hell should, you'd best be dareful. I feel no burden in this. I've not mentioned it to anyone and, frankly, thing that unless you can do what would seem to be close to impossible, get him to open up, this is largely a waste of time. Sylvia, for all her great brilliance, is a captive of the past because she is so restricted, and her evaluations in a comparison of how time can well be spent may not be the best. I think she has wasted most of this large amount of her time, even if it gets published, that journal being so minor at best. And what does it mean, to say the same thing in a different way when it got no attention in the earlier formulations and that at a time when we were getting some notice? ...When you yourself use such words as "gasoline" and refer to your fear to strike a match, you leave me bewildered, frankly. Or, are you letting an older and more experienced manwith a troubled conscience use you as a means of getting relief from it under circumstances that can't help us? If so, let him live with his past. Perhaps I'll write more after I read your letter, which may give some clues. I have had a bad day, with more publisher crookedness with money, and am just beginning to work my way out of that state and must return to writing. ...Perhaps it is all from something I don't understand, but this troubles me deeply and i would again caution you to great care, no needless risk and no unacceptable relationships, especially with the kind of guy who would do what he did to the Rowlands and who would suppress the Carolyn Arnold stuff, which I think he did, too. Or joke before all this pressure about Benavides' identification. There seems to be something very wrong about this and I don't know what but I do know you'd best watch carefully and take no chances at all, not matter how seemingly insignificant. Nor is it impossible that he has phoned Specter. Perhaps it would relieve me, if you feel you can, if you were to tell me if with all this hirlyburly he has given you something of value that will stack up. Without it what the hell?

Best, HW